

BALTIMORE CITY - COMMISSION FOR HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL PRESERVATION

CDBG SURVEY YEAR: 12

SURVEY NO.: B-3962

AREA: Johnston Square Historic District

MAGI NO.: 0439625708

ADDRESS: 922 East Preston Street

CURRENT NAME: Mt. Sinai Baptist Church



BLOCK: LOT:

LOT SIZE:

HEIGHT:

MATERIALS: Brick/Stone

CONDITION: Good

OWNER:

USE: Church

ADDRESS:

DESIGNATION:

ACCESSIBLE:

LIBER/FOLIO:

HISTORIC NAME: Grace United Evangelical Lutheran Church

DATE: ca. 1910

ARCHITECT/BUILDER:

STYLE (IF APPROPRIATE):

DESCRIPTION:

Mt. Sinai Baptist Church, is located on the northeast corner of the intersection of Wilcox (originally Holland) and Preston (originally John) Streets, in the northeast section of the Johnston Square Planning District in Baltimore, Maryland, one block south of Greenmount Cemetery. It is an L shaped, gabled roof, ecclesiastic building with a raised basement. A two story square tower, with pyramidal roof, is at the southwest corner. The main entry is in the tower. The building has an irregular exterior of unfinished stone. The stone finish on the west side, excluding the basement level, differs from the remainder of the building. It is a single color stone. The church's fenestrations all have stone sills, lintels, and/or voussoirs. The primary facade is dominated by a large Gothic-head stained glass window. It is flanked on both sides by smaller Gothic-head windows, each under a dentiled projecting cornice. All of the church's fenestrations are Gothic-head, except for the basement windows and those in the top floor of the tower, these are rectangular, and the west door which is round-head. The tower's top windows are louvered.

SIGNIFICANCE:

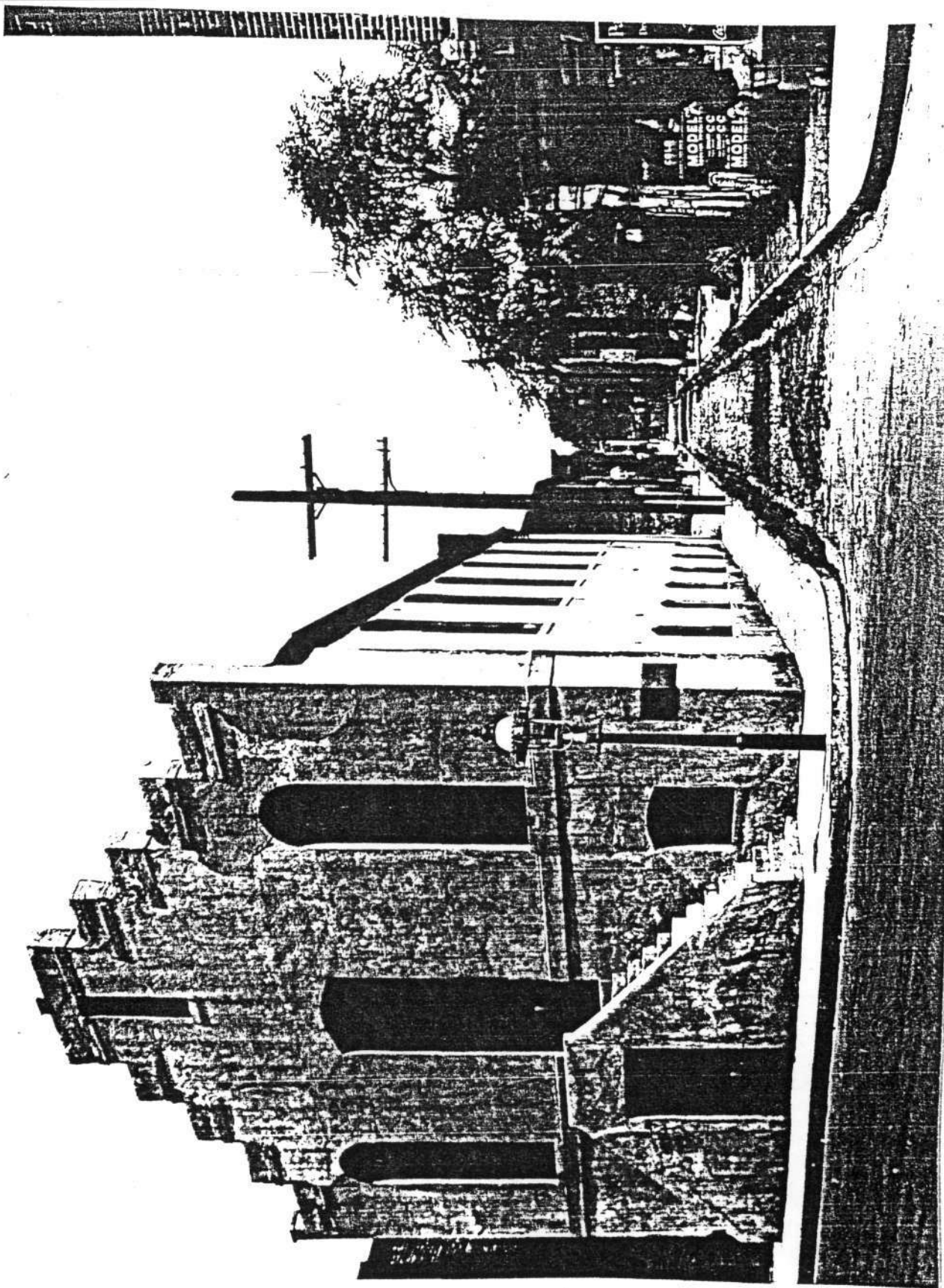
AREA: Architecture

LEVEL: Local

Mt. Sinai, a vernacular building with Gothic Revival details, was built between 1910-11 for Grace United Evangelical Lutheran Church. In 1942 Mt. Sinai, a black Baptist congregation, purchased the church. The building's history parallels the social transformation that it's community has undergone. In 1885 the first Grace Evangelical Church was dedicated. It was a smaller building than the present church and was located at 926, 928 Preston, overlapping onto the lot where the rectory now stands. Rowhouses stood at 922, 924. The Mt. Sinai congregation was organized in 1904 under the direction of Rev. J.H. Taylor. They first met in two houses at the corner of Ashland and Hillman. In 1913-14 they built a church. This building was later purchased by the government and the congregation worshipped temporarily in the basement of Grace Memorial Baptist Church (1100 N. Eden Street). Connecting the church on the east is the J.R. Butler Center (the former Manse), 928 Preston. It is a three story, 2 bay rock-faced rowhouse with a bracketed cornice. Of note are the first floor windows, paired 1/1 segmental arched wood windows with a thin engaged wood column, with capital, on the mullion and a decorative tympanum.

SOURCES: Baltimore City Directories; Maryland Room, Pratt Library; Sanborn Maps; Sun 2-9-885.

SURVEYOR AND DATE: Mary K. Mannix, May 1987.



B-3962

MT. SINAI BAPTIST CHURCH, [1939?]

Original location at northwest corner of Ashland Avenue and Hillman

Photograph Collection, Maryland Department, Enoch Pratt Free Library.

B-3962

P.B. & W. RR.

With permission

Union R.R.

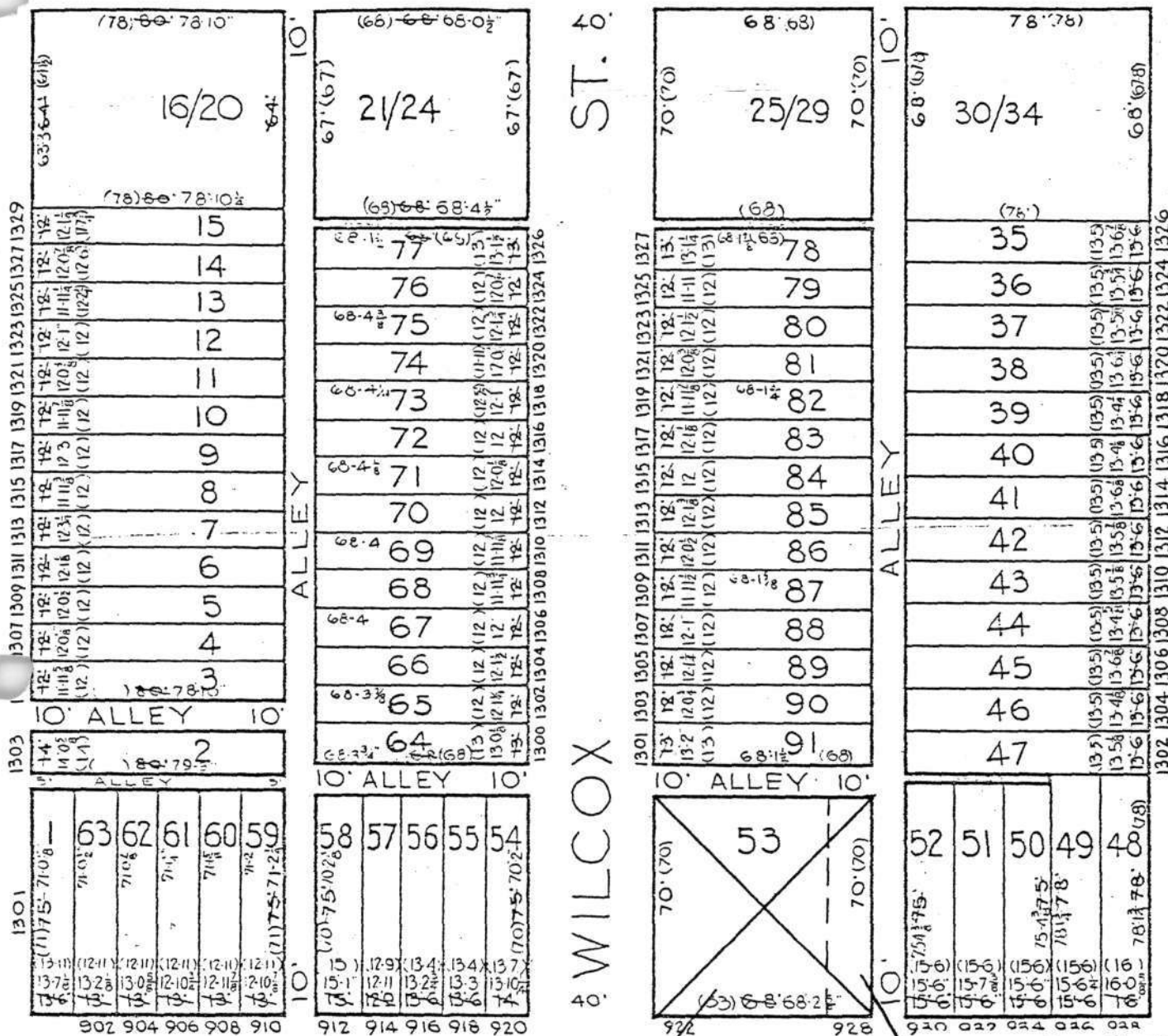
E. HOFFMAN

(Tunnel)

ST.

ST.

ST.



E. PRESTON

Mt. Sinai Baptist Church
922 Preston St.

ST.

GRACE UNITED EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
(Mt. Sinai Baptist Church)
B-3962

CITY OF BALTIMORE

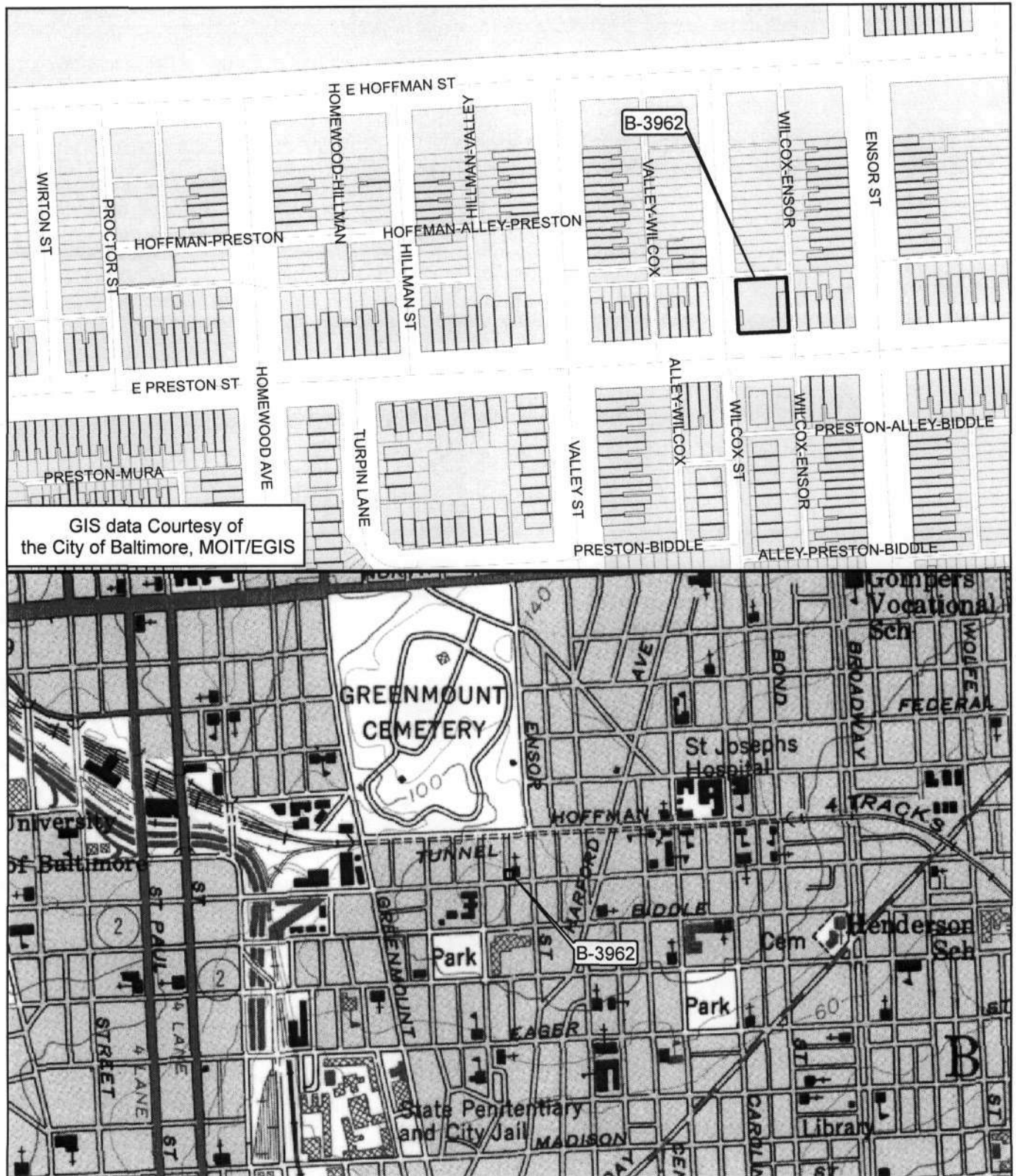
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
BUREAU OF PLANS & SURVEYS
PROPERTY LOCATION DIVISION

:NOTE:

(13-11") Denotes Title
13-7 1/8" Denotes PosseWARD 9 SECTION 8
BLOCK 1144

SCALE 1 in = 50 ft. DATE May 1945

B-3962
 Mt. Sinai Baptist Church (Grace United Evangelical Lutheran Church)
 922 E. Preston Street
 Block 1144, Lot 053
 Baltimore City
 Baltimore East Quad.





Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

B-3962

922-928 E. Preston St.

Baltimore (City), Maryland

Photo: Janet L. Davis

Date: June 1986

Neg. loc.: Maryland Historical Trust

South elevation

1/3



Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

B-3962

922-928 E. Preston St.

Baltimore (City), Maryland

Photo: Janet L. Davis

Date: June 1986

Neg. loc.: Maryland Historical Trust

Southwest corner view

2/3



Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

B-3962

922-928 E. Preston St.

Baltimore (City), Maryland

Photo: Kenneth M. Short

Date: March 1987

Neg. loc.: Maryland Historical Trust

Rectory-928 E. Preston St.-south elevation-
first story window